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THE HONGKONG DISPENSARY,
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TO SUBSCRIBERS.

SUBSCRIBERS TO "THE HONGKONG
TELEGRAPH" ARE MOST RESPECTFULLY
REMINDED THAT ALL SUBSCRIPTIONS
MUST BE PAID IN ADVANCE.

The Hongkong Telegraph

HONGKONG, THURSDAY, NOVEMBER 29, 1894.

TELEGRAMS.

A LARGE ORDER.

LONDON, November 28th.

Field Marshal Count Oyama has left Port
Arthur with a large force. His destination is
probably Shan-hai-kwan, en route to Peking.
An attack on Wei-hai-wai is considered useless
and unnecessary.

MORE PEACE PROPOSALS.

Advices from Washington state that China
has formally sued for peace and has handed
proposals to the United States Minister at Peking
to be forwarded through the U. S. Minister at
Tokyo to the Mikado at Hiroshima.

ANOTHER "GLORIOUS" VICTORY.

The Japanese army operating in Manchuria
has defeated the Chinese at Maitan-ling with a
loss of forty. The Chinese loss was great.
[Truly, wonders will never end.—Ed. Hongkong
Telegraph.]

LATE TELEGRAMS.

FRANCE AND MADAGASCAR.

PARIS, November 19th.

The Committee of the Chamber of Deputies
has reported favourably on the expedition to
Madagascar and the special credit demands by
the Government. M. Dupuy said that it was
not a question of the extension of the French
Colonial Empire, but that the expedition was
necessary if only as a means of upholding the
existing rights of France in Madagascar.

FRENCH PATRIOTISM.

The enquiries which are now being made in
connection with the arrest of Captain Dreyfus
on the charge of divulging State secrets to Italy
and Germany have revealed the fact that there
exists in Paris a widespread system of espionage,
whereby such information is regularly obtained
for foreign Governments by collusion with
French officials. Two Germans have been
arrested in this connection.

DEATH OF A GREAT "SPORT."

LONDON, November 16th.

The Duchess of Montrose is dead.

THE MADAGASCAR TROUBLE.

PARIS, November 18th.

The warlike operations contemplated by
France in Madagascar have been delayed until
after the rainy season. Meanwhile preparations
are being made for active hostilities, immediately
the rains are over.

RUSSIA AND GREAT BRITAIN.

The Russian press, commenting on the speech
made by the Earl of Rosebery at the Lord
Mayor's banquet at the Guildhall, expressed its
gratification at the Premier's friendly references
to Russia and his satisfaction with the prospect
of an entente cordiale between Great
Britain and Russia.

LOCAL AND GENERAL.

ST. ANDREW'S BALL to-morrow night promises
to be one of the best ever given in the colony.The French mail steamer *Salade* may be
expected here early to-morrow morning from
Marseilles, via Saigon.The Canadian Pacific Railway Co.'s steamship
Empress of Japan arrived at Nagasaki at 7.30
a.m. to-day, and left again at 3 p.m. for this port,
via Shanghai.A CRICKET match, the Ladies Recreation Club
v. Hongkong Cricket Club, will be played to-
morrow and Saturday afternoons on the Public
Recreation Ground.The British steamer *Lokong*, which arrived
here this morning, is discharging reports
passing the French cruiser *Forfait* yesterday
at noon off Single Island, bound north.The programme of the forthcoming V. R. C.
Regatta will be found in another part of this
issue. It should attract a large number of com-
petitors and result in some exciting finishes.The nineteenth regular annual meeting of the
District Grand Lodge of Hongkong and South
China, will be held in the Masonic Hall, Zeland
Street, on Friday, the 28th proximo, at 8.30 for
9 p.m. precisely.The funeral of the Indian constable (Ahmed
Singh) who died yesterday from the effects of
the injuries received in the recent Winklog
Street affray, will take place at noon to-morrow
in the Happy Valley.THREE months' imprisonment was the sentence
inflicted on James White, seaman of the troop-
ship *Finnia*, by Mr. Woodhouse at the Magis-
tracy this morning, for annoying some jewellers
from a *maison de plaisir* in Graham Street last
night.THE O. & O. S. Co.'s steamer *Oceanic*, with
mail, &c., which left Hongkong on October
31st for San Francisco, via Nagasaki, Kobe,
Inland Sea, Yokohama and Honolulu, arrived at
her destination on the 27th inst.At the Magistracy this morning, before Mr.
Woodhouse, a Chinese boy, 14 years of age, was
ordered to receive 15 strokes with the rattan and
be imprisoned for 14 days for snatching a pair
of gold ear-rings from a woman in China-town
yesterday.THE Scottish Oriental Co.'s steamer *Chowka*,
Captain Stomham, which leaves here shortly for
Bangkok, will land there for Benabul, and
may possibly become a regular trader between
the latter port and the capital of Siam.CONSTABLE Chan Kwei (No. 448) was fined five
dollars by Mr. Woodhouse this morning for
contempt of court in making use of disrespectful
language. The delinquent made use of the term
lo-fan, in giving evidence, and as this means in
the language of an underling "old barbarian," he
was, at length, promptly "jumped on."THE *Strait Times* of November 20th says:—
It is reported that the present Chinese Consul at
Singapore is leaving shortly for China, to take
up an official position at Shanghai. For the last
few days numerous anonymous circulars, in
Chinese, have been despatched throughout the
town to the Chinese community. These circulars
criticise the Chinese Consul.THERE was a large European audience at
Harrison's Circus last evening, but owing to
the recent fiasco in connection with night plays
the attendance of Chinese was extremely limited.
The entertainment from beginning to end was
quite first-class, the performances of Mr. Gilbert
Eldred, the Alden Family, and Messrs Byssack
& Lovett being especially noteworthy.
This is such an excellent programme that we
intend criticising it in detail to-morrow.
The jumping event for China ponies proved a
failure through no fault of the management, as
only Mr. Fraser-Smith's renowned timber-topper
Killiecrankie faced the music, and with Colonel
von Schumann in the saddle the old make looked
sprightly and workmanlike, and was loudly
applauded as he gracefully retired from the ring,
the hero of a walk-over. The same capital pro-
gramme will be repeated at West Point to-night.At the Police Court to-day six Chinese were
charged before Mr. Woodhouse with gambling in
No. 5, Wa Lane, a notorious neighbourhood.
According to the evidence of Detective-Sergeant
McIver a raid was successfully effected there at
10.15 a.m. this forenoon. From the evidence it
appeared that the "hell" was elaborately fitted
up and supplied with modern appliances, such as
strong transparent (specially constructed), ropes,
escape-ladders, &c. As the ardent votaries of
fan-tan and *go-shi* arrested could not raise the
wind to the tune of \$25 each, the amount of the
fines imposed, they all went "aloft" for six
weeks. The house raided this morning is the
place where a Chinaman committed suicide
three or four days ago by jumping from the top
storey into the street, the motive of the deceased
being to extinguish a sorrow in death owing to
loss at the gaming tables. The affair was
subsequently discovered by the police, who ascer-
tained that the body of the deceased had been
decently buried.HONGKONG LEGISLATIVE
COUNCIL.

1894-95 SESSION.

The following is a continuation of the report
of the proceedings at the meeting of the Legisla-
tive Council held yesterday afternoon:—The Acting Colonial Secretary laid on the
table several financial minutes and moved that
they be referred to the Finance Committee.
The Colonial Treasurer seconded. Carried.

THE WATER SUPPLY.

Mr. E. R. Bellis—I beg to give notice of my
intention at the next meeting of this Council to
ask the following question:—"Have the Govern-
ment, in view of the statements and recom-
mendations contained in the recently received
letter from Mr. Osbert Chadwick on the water
supply of this colony, decided to consider
the expediency of putting meters in all the
houses to which water is laid on, for the purpose
of preventing waste?"

TRYING IT ON.

Mr. A. McConachie—I beg to give notice that
it is my intention to introduce and move the first
reading of a Bill (entitled "An Ordinance to
enforce in certain cases the rights of the
telegraphists.") Draft copies of the Bill will be
circulated amongst members immediately.

THE TYTAM RESERVOIR.

With reference to the extension of Tytam
reservoir, in the course of my annual address to
the Council, the Governor said:—I will now explain the intention of the Govern-
ment in respect to the Tytam Reservoir. An
insufficient supply of water is considered to rank
among the several defects of sanitation, which
we have had to deal. To meet this defect
the Government proposes as soon as possible to
raise the existing reservoir dam at Tytam by 12
feet 6 inches. We propose also to construct a
weir 10 feet above the level of the existing one
and to surmount the same by a movable sluice
capable of raising the top water level of the
reservoir to a height of 12 feet 6 inches above its
present level. It is anticipated that these works
under normal conditions will increase the storage
capacity of the reservoir by 78,000,000 gallons,
and possibly by the use of the sluice by
98,000,000 gallons. The total storage capacity
of Tytam Reservoir alone will then be
1,000,000,000 gallons. The cost of these works
is estimated at \$60,000, an amount which can
be fairly charged against the Loan of 1892.
This matter will be laid before the Public
Works Committee of this Council this afternoon.
I take the opportunity of laying on the table a
report on the subject of the Water Supply by the
consulting engineer (Mr. Chadwick), and I think
you will find his remarks in reference to the
evils of the intermittent system and the necessity
of preventing unnecessary waste instructive and
apposite to the circumstances of Hongkong.

STANDING COMMITTEES.

His Excellency appointed the standing com-
mittees as follows:—Law, Committee of the
Attorney-General, the Registrar-General, Mr.
J. J. Keewick, Dr. Ho Kai, and Mr. E. R. Bellis;
Public Works, The Director of Public Works,
Mr. C. P. Chater, Mr. E. R. Bellis, and Mr. A.
McConachie.

ADJOURNMENT.

His Excellency adjourned the Council until
Thursday, 6th December.

FINANCE COMMITTEE.

THE UNOFFICIAL BACKSLIDERS.

A meeting of the Finance Committee was held
yesterday afternoon, immediately after the
Governor had adjourned the Council until
December 6th. Mr. J. H. Stewart Lockhart,
Acting Colonial Secretary, presided, and the whole
of the members were present. For most of the
details of the subject of the proceedings,
which were of unusual interest to all who have
the welfare of this colony at heart and who are
neither tooled nor influenced, we acknowledge
our indebtedness to the *Daily Press*:—The Chairman said that the first minute to be
considered was the Governor's recommendation to
vote a sum of \$85,000 for the purpose of
erecting the statue of the Queen on the reclaimed
land in front of the City Hall. In connection
with the celebration of the Jubilee of her
Majesty, in addition to fêtes and illuminations,
it was decided to commemorate the
occasion by a permanent memorial in the
shape of a statue of her Most Gracious. Mr.
Keewick, who collected much evidence in connection
with the Beaconsfield statue, was entrusted with
the work, and those who had the glorious
privilege of going on Hongkong's contribution
to Civil Service to-day when the article was
exhibited in London, state that the statue was
worthy of the occasion. It is desired to com-
memorate. At the time it was decided to have
this memorial it was also agreed that the most
suitable site for it would be ground in front of
the City Hall. At the time work on the Reclamation
had not been begun since that portion
had been completed and the Council was now
asked to vote \$85,000, and he moved accordingly.The Colonial Treasurer (Mr. Mitchell Jones)
had, at 1 p.m., great pleasure in seconding the
loyal resolution, and after Mr. J. J. Keewick had
indulged in a few characteristic sallies which
were certainly not called for, the Committee
unanimously voted away \$85,000 of the taxpayers'
and-labour money on one of the most idiotic
fads ever concocted in Hongkong. He yet knew
and starvation strikes rampant throughout the colony,
even the grossly over-paid and notoriously
unhappy Civil Servants, especially in the
higher grades, abounding their desperate position
from the house-tops.

THE EXCHANGE COMPENSATION SWindle.

The Chairman said that the next minute was
one in which the Governor recommended the
Council to vote \$80,000 as a gratuity or charitable
contribution (Mr. Lockhart enthusiastically termed
it "a respect of compensation") for the full in the
exchange value of the dollar to officers despatched
in the United Kingdom and other gold-mining
countries. He did not think it necessary to
give any explanation of what is known by this
vote, as the question had been before the mem-
bers so long that they knew what it was. It
was brought forward by the Colonial Secretary
in September, 1893, and after being thoroughly
discussed, it was decided that pending the
inquiry of the Retirement Committee no action
should be taken in the matter. As the
Retirement Committee had "paved" a "new"
and everything else had been done, and the
official members were "satisfied," he would
not be glad to have a "new" and "new"
impression of a "new" and "new" impression
from the house-tops and "new" impression
from the house-tops.remarkable for its feeble logic, incon-
sistency, and general inanity, remarked
afterwards that the Governor had recommended
that \$80,000 of other people's money should be
donated in the form of compensation to Hong-
kong officials (only in the higher ranks) to make
up for the fall in exchange during the year 1893.
The Secretary of State for the Colonies had
assented to this measure should be passed,
and he had been applied in India, Ceylon,
and the Straits Settlements, which places had
granted their civil servants more favourable
terms than was proposed to be done in Hong-
kong. This question was first mooted quite
early in the year, (shortly after the heated dis-
cussion of the Civil Servants' bill) and maintained
its right to a 35 per cent. all round increase to their
salaries, and under false pretences; but
an amendment was carried to the effect that
its consideration should be postponed until
after the Retirement Committee had been
appointed and had given its report. As a
member of that Committee, Mr. Chater could
mention that this matter was most carefully
gone into and discussed by that body, and it was
concluded that it should be adopted if the
Colonial Treasurer could show that the
extra expenditure had not been for the purpose
of seen and heavy expenses attendant on the
plague and the further material fall in silver,
which should have a very large surplus of revenue
over expenditure for this year, and even as it is,
the deficit is not a very large one, while the
estimate for 1895, after providing for exchange
compensation, actually shows a surplus. Further,
the colony has at its credit, exclusive of loan
moneys, balances here and in London, and in
other places, more than six lakhs of dollars. That
being the case, the Government, for the sake of
the colony, should be of opinion that we can
afford this compensation, and it would therefore
be an enormous on our part not to acquiesce
in it. Besides, continued the member for the
Great Unpaid, we must remember that we cannot
expect to get good officers if we do not give them
adequate remuneration—at which eloquent
burst of state slush the *Hongkong Telegraph*
takes the liberty of smiling audibly, in view of
the well-known fact, acknowledged alike by the
local Press and the public and known better by
no man in the colony than by the Hon. C. P.
Chater, that outside mere professional routine
there is not a single first-class man, not even one
above third-rate mediocrity, in the whole of the
higher civil service of the Hongkong Govern-
ment Service; that, to put it plainly, a more
helpless crowd of mentally feeble and profes-
sionally incapable and incompetent crooks
and cripplés than the present "Official
Phalanx" never arrogated to themselves the
right to in any way guide or direct the affairs
of a British colony.Mr. Chater therefore had much pleasure in
proposing this resolution, and in doing so said
that he was proposing the unanimous wish of all his
unofficial colleagues, and that he was not a
"backslider," and no mistake (1) and added that his
opinion had not been formed hurriedly, but only
after several meetings and long and careful
discussions—which admission in itself is a far
stronger argument against the resolution than
all the sentimental generalities and interested
fine details adduced in its favour. The hon.
member then proposed that the vote be passed.
Mr. Keewick had much pleasure in second-
ing the resolution of his hon. friend, and in doing
so he said that he considered the figures as to
the estimated expenditure seemed to be a
fully to bear out the belief that the colony is in a
position to afford this compensation. It seemed
unnecessary for the member for Jardine's, in
seconding the resolution, to say more than this;
but it will probably strike a great many people
with substantial interests in the colony who do
not belong to either the Tuff-bunting or Mutual
Admission Brigade, that there was a very
strong necessity for a thorough explanation of
the principle on which this large sum of money
is being given away to persons, most of whom
appear to have no legal or equitable claim to
compensation beyond the terms of their contracts.
Dr. Ho Kai thought he ought to say a few
words in supporting the motion to explain why
he did so. The subject was brought before the
Council on the 15th March, 1894, and all the
unofficial members were of one opinion, and that
was that it would be a fair thing, and a just
thing, to allow the civil servants the compensa-
tion known as exchange compensation, if the
Colony could afford it; but at that time we were
in the dark as to the revenue of the colony, and
also there were some matters wanted inquiring
into. Until a few weeks ago, when this subject
was again mooted, the learned Doctor had his
doubts whether the revenue of the colony could
afford it, and whether, if it could afford it for
1895, we could afford to pass a retrospective
resolution making the compensation payable for
1894. At the risk of being charged with being
ungracious, the speaker had to admit that he
held out very strongly against the resolution until
certain information came from the Government
as to how we stood. That information was
furnished and the Governor had confirmed to-
day, showing that although the revenue of the
Colony seemed to show a deficit this year, and
also probably next year, it was entirely due to
the expenditure necessitated by the plague.
And what was of more importance still to the
Chinese member was the increase of taxation
not being very great and not being in the par-
ticular line to which he had (disinterestedly, no
doubt?) strongly objected. It was owing to the
impression that new taxes would have to be
imposed and that the municipal rates would
have to be raised one or two per cent.
which he had strongly opposed the measure. But
finally on being assured that that was not the
case, and with the enormous funds we had in
hand, \$600,000 as stated by his Excellency, he
thought we could afford \$80,000 for exchange
compensation to the civil servants. It is for
this reason he supported the motion now,
although he had strongly objected to it at first.
As to 1895, although there is an expected
deficit.The Chairman—No deficit; there is an esti-
mated surplus for 1895.
Dr. Ho Kai thought it was an expected deficit,
but he made the point all the stronger.
If the \$80,000 were granted for this year, in
1895; he supposed the surplus is after adding to
the expenditure the same amount of \$80,000, so
that next year we shall have no deficit even
with this \$80,000 added. That was a very healthy
sign; he for one was very pleased to hear it, and
cordially supported the resolution—and by so
doing Dr. Ho Kai sacrificed in one sense a
strong position for straightforward independence,
intelligent consistency, and fearless freedom of
action which he has enjoyed since he first
entered public life in Hongkong.Mr. A. McConachie somewhat ambiguously
remarked that while he regretted the report of
the Retirement Committee he entirely agreed
with its recommendation that compensation for
loss in exchange should be given as soon as the
finances of the colony permitted, and as he was
very pleased to find that the amount could now
be voted without any great increase in taxation,
he consequently heartily supported the resolu-
tion. And the Chamber of Commerce repre-
sentative murmured his seat, his colleagues trying
to look serious, but not quite successfully. Mr.
McConachie retired as a silent member, and heought to strictly adhere to that rôle; it is so
easy to look wise and solemn if you can only
keep your mouth shut.We give the speeches of the Government
members of the Committee, so far as they are
reported in our morning contemporary, as a
running commentary would be a sufficient
criticism of what the *Hongkong Telegraph* is
bound to consider, and especially as regards the
Incompetent and officially discredited Colonial
Treasurer, about the most glaring exhibition of
combined official insolence and arrogance ever
known even in red-tape bound Hongkong. The
alleged claims of these officials to special con-
sideration at the hands of the ratepayers of
Hongkong will be carefully and critically
analysed editorially on the basis of their own
arguments in an early issue of this journal.The Colonial Treasurer (Mr. N. G. Mitchell
Jones)—Sir, I should like to make a few remarks
with regard to the offer at present before the
Council. I should be very sorry if any vote of
mine given to-day should give the impression
that the Service was satisfied with the offer that
has been made; on the contrary, so dissatisfied is it
that only a very small minority have been found
willing to accept its terms. We see no reason
why we should be treated in a less favourable
manner than others (Hear, hear). The report of the
Retirement Committee insinuated that the
finances of the colony were not then in such a
position as to enable us to be treated in the same
way. That insinuation, I think, must have been
due to a want of information as to the state of
the colony, and have been made with no other
paid very much attention to the actual state of
the case, for I maintain, Sir, the colony is very
well able to offer its civil servants as favourable
terms as those granted to the civil servants in
the neighbouring colonies and India. I say, Sir,
and I hope I may be excused the warmth of my
language, consider we are placed in an absolutely
despicable position. We have to run, cap in hand,
petitioning the Secretary of State and the
Chamber in order that the service of a colony
called first-class may obtain something like a
fair rate of pay, and I can imagine nothing
more than this to destroy the prestige of the
service and impair its efficiency. I have often
thought it would be a good thing if a Commis-
sion, either a Royal Commission or one appointed
locally, would set to decide what class of civil
servants was deserved for this colony. If the same
class that joined formerly is desired then I main-
tain the pay must approximate more closely to
the pay we drew formerly. If it is considered
that an inferior class of servants would be quite
sufficient for the needs of the colony well and
good, though I doubt whether the colony would
be satisfied when it got it. One advantage would
be that they could regard their offices as first
class, second class, or third class appointments.
At present I maintain that while the appoint-
ments held by us are considered first class, the
pay attached to them is by no means of that
nature. And I may say that consequent dissa-
tisfaction resulting throughout the entire Service
seems very natural. I would like, in order to show
that it is not merely a case of the wish being
father to the thought, to put before the members
now and what it is when I joined the Service,
and for this purpose I think it reasonable to take
for home disbursements. Now I find, notwith-
standing the increases that have been granted,
that the amount an officer can remit has fallen
in the following ratio. To begin with H.E., the
Governor, in 1892, with exchange at 9s. 9½d.,
he could remit with half his pay £2, 16s. 10d.,
to-day £1, 10s. 10d. The Secretary, in 1892 £679,
to-day £505; the Colonial Treasurer, in 1892
£566, to-day £450; the Surveyor-General, in
1892 £543, to-day £434; the Director of Public
Works £347; the Postmaster-General, in 1892
£452, to-day £331; the Registrar-General, in
1892 £566, to-day £354; the Harbour Master, in
1892 £452, to-day £385; the Chief Justice, in
1892 £1,131, to-day £625; the Puisne Judge, in
1892 £769, to-day £437; the Registrar of the
Supreme Court, in 1892 £411, to-day £381; the
Attorney-General, in 1892 £432, to-day £439,
but as the Colony now gets the whole of the
service instead of a portion only as formerly he
stands in the same position as the others; the
Captain Superintendent of Police, in 1892 £475,
to-day £281; the result being, Sir, that after
allowing for the increase in dollars we have
received, the average loss to those leading
officials amounts to £30 per head per annum.
Either we were grossly overpaid when we
arrived (hear, hear.—Ed. *Telegraph*) or we are
grossly underpaid now, and I maintain, that
we are grossly underpaid. Now, what is the
offer of the Secretary of State? Is it to restore
us to the position we held when I came? Far
from it. The result is to reduce the loss by
some 14 per cent., but only on the condition that
we shall suffer a loss of 25 to 30 per cent. on
our leave pay. Gentlemen, I do not think any
of us here would do that. I do not think any
member of this Council would propose that of
his own initiative. I can only suppose that the
Secretary of State has done so under the impres-
sion that our condition was desperate and that a
drawback was necessary. That drawback
amounts to £1,400, which is to be taken from
the Civil Service and distributed amongst the
people of this Colony. The reply of the large
majority of the civil servants to this offer is in
the proposed increase by no means places us in
such a position that we can afford to lose 25 per
cent. on our pay when in England. The expense
of removal are considerable, especially with a
wife, and it seems the least suitable time to
reduce one's pay. If the Colony was in
really great straits, and could not afford
to maintain the pay of its Civil Service, as
has at times happened in some colonies, of
course we would expect to bear our share of the
loss, but the colony has never been in great
loss, in great straits, and it is not in great
straits now, and the service therefore earnestly
hopes that the Secretary of State will grant us
as favourable terms as have been granted in the
Straits Settlements, Ceylon, and India, which,
as I have pointed out, will not place us in the
position occupied when I came to the colony.
I therefore wish to say I most vote for com-
pensation to the Civil Service to the extent of
\$90,000 and by no means intend to vote my con-
currence in the other part of the proposal,
namely, the reduction of leave pay, which is
already insufficient to our needs.The Harbour Master (Mr. R. M. Ramsey,
R.N.)—I merely wish to say for what it is worth
that my vote will be given in the same way as
that of the Treasurer, and for this amount of
money, which is by no means, in my opinion,
what we have a right to expect. I mean to vote
for that sum without reference to any other
opinion that may be expressed later on as to the
pay at home.The Attorney-General (Mr. W. A. Goodman)
—I should like to say a few words on this vote.
There seems to be a general impression abroad
that within the last two or three years a very
large percentage, some 95 per cent., of the
amount added to the salaries of the officers of the Gov-
ernment and that consequently, even if the dollar
has fallen somewhat in value, they must not set off
the one thing against the other and consider
themselves fairly well off as a whole. I do not
think that those who held that view have very
carefully gone into the matter. In some
instances 35 per cent. was added. I have never
seen it stated that to compensate the 1 came
some various conditions imposed on those who
accepted it, namely, a considerable reduction in
their leave pay and consequent loss of theWidow and Orphans Fund, which takes a per
cent. of their salaries. It was not all officers who
accepted. It is unpleasant to have to personal
matters, and I would not mention my own case
did I not think it a duty to prevent misappre-
hension, because I feel sure the people of Hong-
kong would be the last to refuse to do what they
ought to be right. It is because they do not know
the circumstances that this 95 per cent. exists.
In the 1877 blue book the salary of the Attorney-
General of this Colony was in sterling; it was
£1,000 per annum sterling. In addition to which
he received several fees, and there was a ques-
tion whether when he succeeded in a case for
the Crown and got costs from the other side he
should not receive those costs, and in addition
he had private practice. Then there came an
able man here who stayed a long time, the Hon.
E. L. O'Malley. When he left an alteration
was made and the £1,000 sterling was changed
into \$4,800, but allow me to point out that at
that time, as you will find if you refer to your
tables of exchange, it was precisely the same
thing. There was scarcely any difference at all
in the gold values of those two salaries, still, he
had his fees and his private practice. I do not
know what that was because I was not here. I
came under these circumstances. I had a telegram
when I was Chief Justice of another colony
offering me this appointment. I was not to have
private practice, but I was to have \$7,800 per
annum. I had no means at the time of inquiring
whether fees would be payable to me. I had been
Attorney-General in another colony where fees
were a valuable part of my emolument. I came
here, and when I got here, having to come at my
own expense, I was told that all fees received
for trade marks, &c., would have to be paid into
the Treasury. I remonstrated at the time that I
had not been informed of that, but I was told
"That is what you have to do," and accordingly
I did it. I have now held the office, with some
holidays and vacations, when I was acting in
other offices, for five years. I have had a rise in
my remuneration, but not 35 per cent. The
salary was changed from \$7,800, the exchange
at that time being 3s. 2½d. to \$8,400, that is, \$600
more than when I first came here, all fees being
carefully excluded. If I win an appeal, as I did
the other day, and costs are recovered from the
other side, they go into the Treasury not into my
pocket. So the increase has been some 7½
per cent., and now the dollar has fallen to 2s. 10d.,
a loss of more than a shilling on every dollar I
receive. I have a family at home for which I
have to make remittances, and the loss to me is
very great, so grave indeed that I am not sure I
should have come here if I had known that my

